



ACETIC ACID

UN 2789 (More than 80%)

UN 2790 (Solution in water 1-80%)

Shipping Name: UN 2789 Acetic acid, glacial

UN 2790 Acetic Acid, solution, more than 10%
but not more than 80% acid.

Other Names: Ethanoic acid
Ethylic acid

Glacial acetic acid
Methane carboxylic acid



Hazards:

- Very irritating to skin, eyes, nose and lungs; prolonged contact with skin can cause burns
- Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Container may BLEVE when exposed to fire
- Vapors may travel long distances to ignition sources and flashback
- Will attack many forms of rubber or plastic

Awareness and Operational Level Training

Response:

- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area of release or fire and deny entry
- Remove all ignition sources
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Evacuate the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

Description:

- Colorless liquid
- Sour, pungent odor like vinegar
- Soluble in water and produces heat when mixed with water
- Very flammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas

Operational Level Training Response:

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Use large amounts of water to disperse vapors - contain runoff
- Consider the application of alcohol foam to spilled liquid to control vapors
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

FIRE:

- Specially trained personnel operating from a safe distance can fight fires using alcohol foam or dry chemical if available in sufficient amounts or use fog streams to extinguish burning liquid or dilute to a nonflammable mixture. Keep exposures cool to protect against re-ignition. Do not direct straight streams into the liquid.
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of deforming), withdraw immediately to a secure location

First Aid:

- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
 - ♦ Inhalation - remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
 - ♦ Skin - remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Eye - rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
 - ♦ Swallowed - do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- For skin burns rinse with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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